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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the above-referenced application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Currently Amended) The server apparatus in a presence display system according to claim [[1]]2, wherein

the location information includes latitude and longitude information, and the apparatus further comprises:

means for calculating the distance between the user and the other users registered in the buddy list on the basis of the latitude and longitude information transmitted by each user, and determining the proximity of the other users by comparing the calculated distance with a predetermined threshold value, and wherein

the proximity thus determined is transmitted to the client apparatus as information relating to the distance between the user and the other users.
3. (Original) The server apparatus in a presence display system according to claim 2, wherein the threshold value can be optionally set by each user.

4. (Original) The server apparatus in a presence display system according to claim 2, wherein the location information further includes address information, and address information is transmitted to the client apparatus in addition to the proximity.

5. (Currently Amended) The server apparatus in a presence display system according to claim [[1]]9, wherein

means for storing information indicating whether a user gives consent for information relating to the distance thereof to be transmitted to the other users is provided for each user, and the information relating to the distance is not transmitted to the client apparatus of users that have not consented to the transmission of information relating to distance.

6. (Original) The server apparatus in a presence display system according to claim 4, wherein

means for storing information indicating whether a user gives consent for address information thereon to be transmitted to other users is provided for each user, and the address information is not transmitted to the client apparatus of users that have not consented to the transmission of address information.

7. (Currently Amended) The server apparatus in a presence display system according to claim [[1]]2, wherein

the buddy list is constituted by a plurality of community sets in which other users whose state the user wishes to watch are registered in groups; and

information indicating the states of the other users registered in a community set designated by the user and information relating to the distances between the user and the other users are transmitted to the client apparatus.

8. (Original) The server apparatus in a presence display system according to claim 7, wherein

a relative presence setting table, which associates and stores information indicating the state of the user and information indicating states transmitted to the other user in accordance with the community sets to which the other users that have registered the user in a buddy list belong, is provided for each user; and

when information indicating the states of each user is transmitted to other users that are watching the state of the user, information indicating states corresponding with the community sets of the other users is transmitted by referencing the relative presence setting table.

9. (Currently Amended) A The server apparatus in a presence display system according to claim 1, further comprising the server apparatus and a client apparatus for each user, constituted to allow the client apparatus to display the states of other users, comprising:

means for holding information indicating the states of each user and location information that are transmitted by each of the client apparatuses;

means for storing a buddy list that registers other users whose states the user wishes to watch, for each user;

means for transmitting, to each user, information indicating the states of other users registered in the buddy list and information relating to the distance between the user and the other users; and

means for creating a list of other users that are watching the state of the user and transmitting the list to the user in accordance with a request from the user.

10. (Currently Amended) A client apparatus in a presence display system comprising a server apparatus and a client apparatus for each user, constituted to allow the client apparatus to display the states of other users, comprising:

means for transmitting information indicating the state of the user and location information to the server apparatus;

means for receiving information indicating the states of other users and information relating to the distance between the user and the other users from the server apparatus; ~~and~~

means for displaying the states of the other users in a display form that corresponds with the distance between the other users and the user on the basis of the information indicating the states of the other users and information relating to the distance between the user and the other users thus received; and

means for receiving a list of other users that are watching the state of the user in accordance with a request therefor.

11. (Original) The client apparatus in a presence display system according to claim 10, wherein
the information relating to the distance between the user and the other users is the
proximity that is determined by comparing the distance between the user and the other users with
a predetermined threshold value; and

the displaying means displays an image corresponding with the information indicating
the states of the other users received from the server apparatus with a size that corresponds with
the proximity.

12. (Original) The client apparatus in a presence display system according to claim 10, wherein
the information relating to the distance between the user and the other users further
includes address information, and

the displaying means is capable of displaying the addresses of the other users.

13. (New) The server apparatus in a presence display system according to claim 9, further
comprising:

means for receiving location information from each of the client apparatuses.

14. (New) The server apparatus in a presence display system according to claim 9, further
comprising:

means for transmitting location information to each of the client apparatuses.

15. (New) The server apparatus in a presence display system according to claim 9, further comprising:

means for transmitting a state of movement of each user to each of the client apparatuses.

16. (New) The server apparatus in a presence display system according to claim 9, further comprising:

means for determining location information using a base station id associated with each of the client apparatuses.

17. (New) The server apparatus in a presence display system according to claim 8, wherein the relative presence setting table causes different relative presence information to be displayed for different community sets of the other users.

18. (New) The client apparatus in a presence display system according to claim 10, further comprising:

means for transmitting location information to the server.

19. (New) The client apparatus in a presence display system according to claim 10, further comprising:

means for receiving location information from the server.

20. (New) The client apparatus in a presence display system according to claim 10, further comprising:

means for receiving a state of movement of each user from the server.

21. (New) The client apparatus in a presence display system according to claim 10, further comprising:

means for determining location information using a base station id associated with the client apparatus.

22. (New) The client apparatus in a presence display system according to claim 10, wherein a relative presence setting table, which associates and stores information indicating the state of each user and information indicating states transmitted to the other user in accordance with the community sets to which the other users that have registered the user in a buddy list belong, is provided for each user; and when information indicating the states of each user is transmitted to other users that are watching the state of the user, information indicating states corresponding with the community sets of the other users is transmitted by referencing the relative presence setting table, wherein the relative presence setting table causes different relative presence information to be displayed for different community sets of the other users.

23. (New) A method of allowing client apparatuses in a presence display system to display the states of other users, comprising:

- holding information indicating the states of each user;
- storing a buddy list that registers other users whose states the user wishes to watch, for each user;
- transmitting, to each user, information indicating the states of other users registered in the buddy list; and
- creating a list of other users that are watching the state of the user and transmitting the list to the user in accordance with a request from the user.

24. (New) The method according to claim 23, wherein the buddy list is constituted by a plurality of community sets in which other users whose state the user wishes to watch are registered in groups and wherein information indicating the states of the other users registered in a community set designated by the user are transmitted to the client apparatus.

25. (New) The method according to claim 24, wherein a relative presence setting table, which associates and stores information indicating the state of the user and information indicating states transmitted to the other user in accordance with the community sets to which the other users that have registered the user in a buddy list belong, is provided for each user and wherein when information indicating the states of each user is transmitted to other users that are watching the state of the user, information indicating states corresponding with the community sets of the other users is transmitted by referencing the relative presence setting table.

26. (New) The server apparatus in a presence display system according to claim 25, wherein the relative presence setting table causes different relative presence information to be displayed for different community sets of the other users.

27. (New) The method according to claim 23, further comprising:

holding information indicating location information for each user, wherein the location information includes latitude and longitude information;

transmitting, to each user, information relating to the distance between the user and the other users in the buddy list that is calculated on the basis of the latitude and longitude information transmitted by each user; and

determining proximity of other users by comparing the distance with a predetermined threshold value, wherein the proximity is transmitted as information relating to the distance between the user and the other users.

28. (New) The method according to claim 27, wherein the threshold value can be optionally set by each user.

29. (New) The method according to claim 27, wherein location information is transmitted by each of the client apparatuses.

30. (New) The method according to claim 27, wherein location information is provided from the server to each client apparatus of the users.

31. (New) The method according to claim 27, further comprising:

transmitting a state of movement of each user to each of the client apparatuses.

32. (New) The method according to claim 27, further comprising:

determining location information using a base station id associated with each of the client apparatuses.

33. (New) The method according to claim 27, wherein information indicating whether a user gives consent for information relating to the distance thereof to be transmitted to the other users is provided for each user, and the information relating to the distance is not transmitted to the client apparatus of users that have not consented to the transmission of information relating to distance.

34. (New) The method according to claim 27, wherein the location information further includes address information, and address information is transmitted to the client apparatus in addition to the proximity.

35. (New) The method according to claim 34, wherein information indicating whether a user gives consent for address information thereon to be transmitted to other users is provided for each user, and wherein the address information is not transmitted to the client apparatus of users that have not consented to the transmission of address information.

36. (New) The server apparatus in a presence display system according to claim 9, wherein information relating to distance between the user and other users includes location information of the other users that is transmitted to the user and used by the user to calculate the distance.

37. (New) The client apparatus in a presence display system according to claim 10, wherein information relating to distance between the user and other users includes location information of the other users that is transmitted to the client apparatus and used by the client apparatus to calculate the distance.

38. (New) The method according to claim 23, further comprising:

transmitting, to each user, location information for at least one other user in the buddy list.

39. (New) The method according to claim 38, further comprising:

each of the users determining proximity of other users in the buddy list by calculating a distance between the user and the at least one other user using the location information.

40. (New) The method according to claim 39, further comprising:

comparing the distance with a predetermined threshold value.

41. (New) The method according to claim 38, wherein the location information includes latitude and longitude information.

42. (New) The method according to claim 38, wherein transmitting location information and transmitting information indicating the states of other users are performed independently.

43. (New) The method according to claim 38, wherein the location information is the proximity of the other users to the user.

44. (New) A server apparatus, comprising:

a user data section containing information indicating the states of each user and containing a buddy list that registers, for each user, other users whose states the user wishes to watch; and

a web server, coupled to the user data section to transmit, to each user, information indicating the states of the other users registered in the buddy list, wherein a list of the other users that are watching the state of the user is created and provided to the user in accordance with a request from the user.

45. (New) The server apparatus according to claim 44, wherein location information is provided to at least one user for at least one of the other users that is in the buddy list.

46. (New) The server apparatus according to claim 45, wherein each of the users determines proximity of other users in the buddy list by calculating a distance between the user and the at least one other user using the location information.

47. (New) The server apparatus according to claim 46, wherein the distance is compared with a predetermined threshold value.

48. (New) The server apparatus according to claim 45, wherein the location information includes latitude and longitude information.

49. (New) The server apparatus according to claim 45, wherein providing location information and providing information indicating the states of other users are performed independently.

50. (New) The server apparatus according to claim 45, wherein the location information is the proximity of the other users to the user.